[19th May 1954

An expenditure of Rs. 284–4–0 was, however, incurred by the Madras State as detailed below :—

(1) Rupees 40 being the cost of cool drinks, etc., provided at Mahabalipuram.

(2) Rupees 65–12–0 being the difference between the normal rate of hire charges of the Government bus, i.e., Rupees 365–12–0 and Rs. 300 the concessional rate at which the bus was given.

(3) Rupees 178–8–0 being the charges for printing tickets at Government Press which was waived as a special case.''

9-10 p.m. SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—'' Sir, who was the officer incharge of the arrangements here in the Madras City and is it a fact that that Officer threw an iron curtain around the delegation preventing popular access and provided access to the delegation only to his kith and kin, such as daughter, daughter-in-law, sister, sister-in-law, brother, brother-in-law and so forth? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' I do not have any information here with me. If the hon. Member knows the name of the officer, he may give it to me.''

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—'' கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே சோவியத் யூனியன் கலா கோஷடி இந்திய சர்க்காரின் வேண்டுகோள் பேரில்தானே இங்கே விஜயம் செய்தது ? பிரதம மந்திரியின் நிதிக்காகத் தானே அவர்கள் பணம் வசூல் செய்தார்கள்? ஆகவே அவர்கள் சர்க்காருக்கு எவ்வளவு பணம் வசூல் செய்து தந்தார்கள் என்பதையாவது சொல்வார்களா ? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' Sir, I thought that the Soviet Cultural Delegation came here for cultural contact and not for earning for any purpose. The other thing was quite incidental; that is all.''

Assistance to handloom industry.

* 983 *Q*.—SRI S. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the State Government received any directive from the Union Government regarding—

(i) abolition of sales tax on handloom goods;

(ii) giving assistance to handloom industry and handloom workers; and

(iii) giving any kind of rebate for the purchase of handloom cloth; and

(*b*) if so, the State Government's action in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' (*a*) No directives have been received from the Government of India. They requested this Government to abolish the sales tax on handloom cloth. A sum of Rs. 98,38,677 has been allotted to this State by the Central Government, out of the Mill Cloth Cess

19th May 1954]

Fund, for developing handloom industry. The Schemes formulated by this Government to utilize the amount have been approved by them. Grants of rebate on the purchase of handloom cloth is one of these schemes.

(*b*) Sales of handloom cloth have been exempted from Sales Tax with effect from 1st April 1954. As regards assistance to the handloom industry the attention of the member is invited to the answer given on 23rd March 1954 to question No. 219 (starred) by Sri N. K. Palanisami, M.L.A.''

Construction of a side wall on the bridge across the River Vaigai at Paramakudi.

* 984 *Q.*—SRI G. GOVINDAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to construct side walls on the submergible bridge across the River Vaigai at Paramakudi for the safety of vehicular traffic; and

(*b*) if so, when the work is likely to be taken up for execution?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" Sir, the answer to the question is not yet ready.''

SRI A. GOVINDASAMY NAYAGAR :—" On a point of order, Sir, நான் ஒரு ஒழுங்குப் பிரச்னையை எழுப்புகிறேன். கேள்விக்குப் பதில் இன்னும் வராதபோது அது எப்படி கேள்வித் தாளில் சேர்க்கப்பட்டது என்று கேட்கிறேன்.''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, for all the questions which have been placed for answering to-day, the replies were ready and despatched to the Legislature Secretariat, but the Minister did not get sufficient notice and did not get the file from his office. That is the main difficulty.''

Death due to cancer.

* 985 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the steps taken by the Government to deal with cases of Cancer; and

(*b*) the number of persons reported to have died on account of Cancer in this State in 1953?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) The Barnard Institute of Radiology, Government General Hospital, Madras, is equipped with all the modern X-ray therapy equipments and has also about 1,400 mgm. of radium for the treatment of cancer cases. In this hospital, one hundred beds are set apart for cancer patients. In the Government Hospital for Women and Children, Madras a Cancer ward of one hundred beds has been constructed. This hospital has been provided with Deep-X-ray therapy apparatus and sufficient radium for the treatment of Cancer cases. The Erskine Hospital, Madurai, has been equipped with a Deep-X-ray therapy apparatus to deal with Cancer cases.

" (*b*) Two hundred and eighty-two, Sir.''